

# NOTICE TO CALIFORNIA COMMERCIAL FISHERMEN AND PROCESSORS

2004 Federal Groundfish Management Measures that Affect Fishermen in Federal and State Waters<sup>1</sup> off California

## TRAWL FEDERAL LIMITED ENTRY<sup>2</sup>

May - June

**All Bottom Trawling is Prohibited Within The Trawl Rockfish Conservation Area (RCA).**

### *Oregon border south to 40° 10' N*

The RCA is generally defined as the waters between 60 and 150 fathoms.

### *40° 10' south to Mexico border*

The RCA is generally defined as the waters between 100 and 150 fathoms along the mainland coast; shoreline to 150 fathoms around islands (except the Farallon Islands). Also the waters around the Farrallon Islands are closed shoreline to the 10 fathom depth contour.

The actual boundaries of the RCA are defined by a series of straight lines between "way points". The coordinates for the way points are available from the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS-SEA-04-03). Footrope restrictions see note 3. Vessels may transit the RCA with or without groundfish onboard provided the gear is stowed (see federal register for the definition of stowed).

### ***LANDINGS ARE RESTRICTED TO THE SPECIES OR SPECIES GROUPS LISTED BELOW!***

#### **ROCKFISH**

##### **LONGSPINE THORNYHEAD**

- **North of 40° 10' N:** 10,000 pounds during the 2-month cumulative period.
  - ✓ No more than 1,000 pounds during the 2-month cumulative period, if small footrope is used at any time, north or south, during the cumulative period.
- **South of 40° 10' N:** 10,000 pounds during the 2-month cumulative period.

##### **SHORTSPINE THORNYHEAD**

- **North of 40° 10' N:** 2,100 pounds during the 2-month cumulative period.
  - ✓ No more than 1,000 pounds during the 2-month cumulative period, if small footrope is used at any time, north or south, during the cumulative period.
- **South of 40° 10' N:** 2,000 pounds during the 2-month cumulative period.

##### **MINOR SLOPE**

- **North of 40° 10' N:** 8,000 pounds during the 2-month cumulative period.
- **South of 40° 10' N:** 50,000 pounds during the 2-month cumulative period.

##### **SPLITNOSE**

- **South of 40° 10' N:** 50,000 pounds during the 2-month cumulative period.

##### **PACIFIC OCEAN PERCH (POP)**

- **North of 40° 10' N:** 3,000 pounds during the 2-month cumulative period.

#### Small footrope or mid-water trawl only

##### **MINOR SHELF, WIDOW and CHILIPEPPER**

- **North of 40° 10' N:** 1,000 pounds per month.
  - ✓ No more than 200 pounds of which may be yelloweye rockfish.
- **South of 40° 10' N:** 300 pounds per month.

##### **CANARY**

- 300 pounds per month.

##### **MINOR NEARSHORE<sup>5</sup>**

**See Digest of CA Commercial Fish Laws for permit requirements, size limits, and state trip limits**

- 300 pounds per month.

#### Small footrope only

##### **YELLOWTAIL**

- **North of 40° 10' N:** As flatfish bycatch, no more than 33 % of the flatfish (other than arrowtooth flounder) on board plus an amount equal to 10 % of the arrowtooth not to exceed 10,000 pounds during the 2-month cumulative period. Without flatfish 1,000 pounds per month.

#### Mid-water trawl only

##### **WIDOW and YELLOWTAIL**

- In trips of at least 10,000 lb of whiting: combined widow and yellowtail limit of 500 pounds per trip. Mid-water trawl is permitted in the Trawl RCA.
  - ✓ Widow cumulative limit of 1,500 pounds per month.
  - ✓ Yellowtail cumulative limit of 2,000 pounds per month.

#### When large footrope only is used to land groundfish during the entire limit period.

##### **MINOR SHELF**

- **South of 40° 10' N:** 300 pounds per month.

#### CHILIPEPPER

- **South of 40° 10' N:** 12,000 during the 2-month cumulative period.

#### BOCACCIO

- **South of 40° 10' N:** 100 pounds per month.

### FLATFISH

#### DOVER SOLE

##### **North of 40° 10' N:**

- No more than 21,000 pounds during the 2-month cumulative period.

##### **South of 40° 10' N:**

- No more than 26,000 pounds during the 2-month cumulative period.

#### OTHER FLATFISH

##### **North of 40° 10' N:** (including rex sole)

- 100,000 pounds during the 2-month cumulative period.
- If small footrope is used at any time, north or south, during the cumulative period, 60,000 pounds during the 2-month cumulative period.
  - ✓ No more than 25,000 pounds of which may be petrale sole.

##### **South of 40° 10' N:** (including petrale & rex sole)

- 100,000 pounds during the 2-month cumulative period.
  - ✓ No more than 20,000 pounds of which may be petrale sole.

#### PETRALE SOLE

##### **North of 40° 10' N:**

- 100,000 pounds during the 2-month cumulative period unless small footrope is used.
  - ✓ If small footrope is used at any time, See OTHER

##### **FLATFISH for North of 40° 10' N:**

NOTES: 1. California adopts federal groundfish regulations (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 189, Commercial Groundfish Fishing)

2. A vessel with a federal limited entry permit may fish in the open access fishery using a gear other than the endorsement gear; however, the vessel will be held to limited entry limits even if the open access limit is larger. If the open access limit is smaller than the limited entry limit, the vessel cannot land more than the open access limit using non-endorsed gear; the remainder of the limited entry limit may be taken with the endorsed gear.

3. Large footrope (greater than 8" in diameter); Small footrope (8" or less in diameter). All trawl types may be used seaward of the RCA. Only small footrope and midwater trawl is permissible shoreward of the RCA. A vessel may have more than one type of trawl gear on board, but the most restrictive limit for any of the gear applies for that trip. A vessel may not have limited entry bottom trawl gear on board if that vessel also has trawl gear on board that is permitted for use within a RCA.

4. The 2-month fishing period are: January-February; March-April; May-June; July-August; September-October; November-December.

5. State Nearshore Fishery Permit and/or Deeper Nearshore Species Fishery Permit Required.

6. Sablefish trip limits are in round weight equivalent. California allows dressed weight to be reported on landing receipts. If so reported, the receipts must be marked with the code for "dressed head off" (02) in the condition column. The equivalent round weight is computed by multiplying 1.6 times the dressed weight.

7. Groundfish species or species groups for which there is a trip limit, size limit, or OY (optimum yield) must be sorted prior to weighing and the weight reported separately on the Fish and Game receipt.

8. Landing receipts for groundfish must be maintained onboard the vessel during and for 15 days after the end of the cumulative limit period during which the landings occurred (63 FR 34606) (Fish & Game Code 8046.1).

9. Operating in areas with different trip limits. If a vessel takes and retains a groundfish species or species groups; a.) in an area where a more restrictive limit applies before fishing in an area where a more liberal limit or no limit applies; or b.) in an area where a more liberal or no limit applies and takes and retains, possesses or lands that species or species group in an area where a more restrictive limit applies; then the vessel is subject to the more restrictive limit for the period.

10. Other Groundfish: leopard and soupfin shark, spiny dogfish; big, California and longnose skate; ratfish; finescale codling; and grenadier.

#### ARROWTOOTH FLOUNDER

##### **North of 40° 10' N:**

- 150,000 pounds during the 2-month cumulative period.
- If small footrope is used at any time, north or south, during the cumulative period, 6,000 pounds during the 2-month cumulative period.

##### **South of 40° 10' N:**

- 10,000 pounds during the 2-month cumulative period.

### ROUND FISH

#### SABLEFISH<sup>6</sup>

##### **North of 40° 10' N:**

- No more than 8,700 pounds during the 2-month cumulative period.
- If small footrope is used at any time, north or south, during the cumulative period, 5,000 pounds during the 2-month cumulative period.

##### **South of 40° 10' N:**

- 7,500 pounds during the 2-month cumulative period.

#### PACIFIC WHITING

- Primary Season - mid-water trawling permitted in the RCA.

#### Small footrope trawl or mid-water trawl only

#### LINGCOD

- No more than 1,000 pounds during the 2-month cumulative period with a 24-inch minimum size limit.

### OTHER GROUND FISH<sup>10</sup>

Not limited

If you have any questions about these regulations, please contact either:

Mike Fukushima, Eureka @ (707)441-5797, Brenda Erwin, Belmont @ (650)631-6740,  
Susan Ashcraft, Belmont @ (650) 631-6786 or Steve Wertz, Los Alamitos @ (562)342-7184.

For updates check out PFMC's web page @ [www.pcouncil.org](http://www.pcouncil.org) or for NMFS NW Region

<http://www.nwr.noaa.gov/1press/sfdpress.htm>

[http://www.dfg.ca.gov/mrd/index\\_regs.html](http://www.dfg.ca.gov/mrd/index_regs.html)

California Department of Fish and Game – Marine Region



# NOTICE TO CALIFORNIA COMMERCIAL FISHERMEN AND PROCESSORS

2004 Federal Groundfish Management Measures that Affect Fishermen in Federal and State Waters<sup>1</sup> off California

## TRAWL

### FEDERAL OPEN ACCESS

(trawlers that do not have a federal groundfish limited entry permit  
and/or trawlers that are not fishing with legal groundfish gear)

**May - June**

### **All Bottom Trawling Is Prohibited Within The Trawl Rockfish Conservation Area (RCA) Except Pink Shrimp<sup>2</sup>.**

#### ***40° 10' south to Mexico border***

The RCA is generally defined as the waters between 100 and 150 fathoms along the mainland coast; shoreline to 150 fathoms around islands (except the Farallon Islands). Also the waters around the Farrallon Islands are closed shoreline to the 10 fathom depth contour.

The actual boundaries of the RCA are defined by a series of straight lines between "way points". The coordinates for the way points are available from the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS-SEA-04-03). Footrope restrictions see note 3. Vessels may transit the RCA with or without groundfish onboard provided the gear is stowed (see federal register for the definition of stowed).

## **RIDGEBACK & GOLDEN PRAWN, CA HALIBUT, AND SEA CUCUMBER**

### ***LANDINGS ARE RESTRICTED TO THE SPECIES OR SPECIES GROUPS LISTED BELOW!***

- ❖ No more than 300 pounds total groundfish bycatch\* per trip. **The following sub-limits and cumulative limits still apply in conjunction with the 300 pound total bycatch limit.**
  - Thornyheads: South of 34° 27' N only: 50 pound daily trip limit with a 2-month cumulative limit of 1,000 pounds.
  - Minor Shelf Rock, widow, chilipepper and yellowtail: South of 34° 27' N only: No more than 500 pounds may be landed during the 2-month cumulative period.
  - Shallow<sup>10</sup> Nearshore Rock: No more than 500 pounds may be landed during the 2-month cumulative period. PERMIT REQUIRED, See State Regulations for Nearshore Restrictions.
  - Deeper<sup>10</sup> Nearshore Rock: 40° 10' N to 34° 27' N only: No more than 500 pounds may be landed during the 2-month cumulative period and South of 34° 27' N only: No more than 600 pounds may be landed during the 2-month cumulative period. PERMIT REQUIRED, See State Regulations for Nearshore Restrictions.
  - Minor Slope: South of 38° N, 10,000 pounds may be landed during the 2-month cumulative period. North of 38° N, per trip no more than 25% of weight of sablefish landed.
  - Splitnose: South of 40° 10' N: No more than 200 pounds may be landed per month.
  - Flatfish: 3,000 pounds may be landed per month, no more than 300 pounds of which may be species other than Pacific sanddabs. CA Halibut fishery south of 38° 57' 30"N only: no more than 300 pounds of which may be species other than Pacific sanddabs, sand sole, starry flounder, rock sole, or curlfin sole.
  - Sablefish: North of 36° N, 300 lbs/day OR one landing per fishing week<sup>8</sup> up to 900 pounds, with a 2-month cumulative limit of 3,600 pounds and South of 36° N, 350 lbs/day, or 1 landing per week of up to 1050 lbs; no cumulative limit.
  - Lingcod: No more than 300 pounds may be landed per month with a 24-inch minimum size limit..
  - CA scorpionfish<sup>10</sup>: No more than 300 pounds may be landed during the 2-month cumulative period. PERMIT REQUIRED, See State Regulations for Nearshore Restrictions.
  - Other Groundfish<sup>11</sup> (sharks, skates, ratfish, morids, grenadier): No cumulative limit.

\*Pounds of groundfish bycatch landed cannot exceed pounds of target species landed except spiny dogfish landings may exceed the amount of target species landed. Spiny dogfish are limited by the 300 pound per trip over all groundfish limit. Vessels participation in the CA Halibut fishery south of 38° 57' 30"N (only) are allowed to land up to 100 lb/day of groundfish without the ratio requirement, provided that at least one CA Halibut is landed.

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**PINK SHRIMP (April - October)**  
**Permitted with in the RCA with excluders**

- ❖ 500 pounds groundfish bycatch per day, multiplied by the number of days of the fishing trip, but not to exceed 1,500 pounds per trip. The following sub-limits and cumulative limits still apply in conjunction with the above total bycatch limit.
  - Lingcod: 300 pounds per month, minimum size limit 24 inches.
  - Sablefish: 2,000 pounds per month.
  - Thornyhead, and canary & yelloweye rockfish: PROHIBITED.
- ❖ For vessels landing groundfish bycatch in the pink shrimp fishery and also operating in the limited entry or open access fisheries.
  - The vessel may retain the larger of the groundfish limits in effect for that same cumulative limit period, but cannot exceed the limit for each gear or fishery when operating in that fishery or with that gear.
  - The limits are not additive.
- ❖ Pounds of groundfish bycatch landed cannot exceed pounds of pink shrimp

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NOTES: 1. California adopts federal groundfish regulations (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 189, Commercial Groundfish Fishing)

2. Pink shrimp trawl may be used in the RCA with excluders.

3. Large footrope (greater than 8" in diameter); Small footrope (8" or less in diameter). All trawl types may be used seaward of the RCA. Only small footrope and midwater trawl is permissible shoreward of the RCA. A vessel may have more than one type of trawl gear on board, but the most restrictive limit for any of the gear applies for that trip. A vessel may not have limited entry bottom trawl gear on board if that vessel also has trawl gear on board that is permitted for use within a RCA.

4. The 2-month fishing period are: January-February; March-April; May-June; July-August; September-October; November-December.

5. DTS Complex – Dover sole, longspine and shortspine thornyheads, and trawl caught sablefish.

6. Sablefish trip limits are in round weight equivalent. California allows dressed weight to be reported on landing receipts. If so reported, the receipts must be marked with the code for "dressed head off" (02) in the condition column. The equivalent round weight is computed by multiplying 1.6 times the dressed weight.

7. Groundfish species or species groups for which there is a trip limit, size limit, or OY (optimum yield) must be sorted prior to weighing and the weight reported separately on the Fish and Game receipt.

8. Landing receipts for groundfish must be maintained onboard the vessel during and for 15 days after the end of the cumulative limit period during which the landings occurred (63 FR 34606) (Fish & Game Code 8046.1).

9. Operating in areas with different trip limits. If a vessel takes and retains a groundfish species or species groups; a.) in an area where a more restrictive limit applies before fishing in an area where a more liberal limit or no limit applies; or b.) in an area where a more liberal or no limit applies and takes and retains, possesses or lands that species or species group in an area where a more restrictive limit applies; then the vessel is subject to the more restrictive limit for the period.

10. State Nearshore Fishery Permit and/or Deeper Nearshore Species Fishery Permit Required.

11. Other Groundfish: leopard and soupfin shark, spiny dogfish; big, California and longnose skate; ratfish; finescale codling; and grenadier.



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For updates check out PPMC's web page @ [www.pcouncil.org](http://www.pcouncil.org) or for NMFS NW Region  
<http://www.nwr.noaa.gov/1press/sfdpress.htm>  
[http://www.dfg.ca.gov/mrd/index\\_regs.html](http://www.dfg.ca.gov/mrd/index_regs.html)  
California Department of Fish and Game – Marine Region